

~~SECRET~~

DTR-5561

8 OCT 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Training

SUBJECT : A Senior School for the Agency

Hugh:

I appreciate seeing your draft of comments on my proposal for senior training. I'm sorry to have caused a pre-mature birth of your proposal but as you noted, our purposes are somewhat different. I was following a thread which has been winding through the Executive Director-Comptroller/Deputies meetings for over a year. Hence, my decision to address my proposal to Colonel White for consideration as an extension of the inter-Directorate exchange effort rather than as a training device per se.

Assuming that the usual time and work pressures would make two courses infeasible--an argument I don't accept necessarily--some combination of your ideas and mine would be desirable. What I want to accomplish could not be done in the presence of non-Agency people. A possible solution would be a course structure which provided for a (two-week?) piece at the end solely for Agency officers. My original suggestion was four weeks but two would have been in large what you are proposing on the community level.

I am left with one real concern. Though you are not specific, your language suggests you contemplate a course of several weeks--perhaps months--duration. It follows that only a few from each agency would be enrolled (more could not be spared) and presumably only one or at most two cycles a year. This would not provide for the numbers I had in mind. It might, though, cover as many as the Director and his senior officers think necessary. This numbers problem is something we in OP are studying now--how many and when for orderly succession?

Let none of this suggest I don't endorse the idea of a senior seminar in intelligence. The combination of increasing demands and continuing constraints makes critical the improvement of inter-Agency understanding and, hopefully, more efficient use of community assets.

SIGNED

Robert S. Wattles
Director of Personnel~~SECRET~~